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Inquiring into their reason for saying so, I was told that there were no frosts here, and that time alone would exterminate it.

For the time being the disease is certainly contagious, if not epidemic, as can be demonstrated by several instances. The transit population is very apt to catch it, and it is not safe for Americans to pass through here just now. Every vessel coming of late from New York has had its victims, and I am unofficially but reliably informed that the steamship *Colon* that left here May 1 for San Francisco lost 3 people from yellow fever before it reached Acajutla, some 600 miles away. The steamship *Newport* that left for the same place the 10th instant had to send 1 cabin passenger ashore sick with the disease before it weighed anchor; he has died since.

The British consul here informs me that all vessels from Colon are quarantined in the ports of the British West Indies provided they are less than eight days from the place; if more than eight days there is free pratique, unless some death from the disease has taken place in the meantime. The French consul advises me to the same effect.

I hope to be able to give you better news by next mail, or by cable if necessary.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

VICTOR VIFQUAIN,
United States Consul-General.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

Yellow fever in Colon.

COLON, May 25, 1897.

SIR: I deem it my duty to invite the attention of the Department to the existence of yellow fever at this port, in a sporadic form. There is no contagion or epidemic as yet, and I have not thought it necessary to cable the information concerning it. I have found it somewhat difficult to get information from the authorities here, but now have official notice of 3 deaths and reliable information of two others during the last two weeks. All of the deaths reported were transients but one, and that one had not been a resident of the isthmus but a few months. The outlook is quite unfavorable, and I fear it may become epidemic, but in any event I will keep the Department advised as to the progress of the disease. There remain probably 5 or 6 cases to-day, mostly of a mild type.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JOSIAH L. PEARCY,
United States Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

Statistical reports.

AFRICA—*Mozambique*.—Month of March, 1897. Estimated population, 10,000. Total deaths, 15.

CANADA—*Ontario—Hamilton*.—Month of May, 1897. Estimated population, 50,000. Total deaths, 56.

CUBA—*Manzanillo*.—Two weeks ended May 15, 1897. Estimated population, 15,000. Total deaths, 50, including typhus fever, 5, and enteric fever, 18.

FRANCE—*Roubaix*.—Month of April, 1897. Estimated population,